

Lineage and Honors History
Of the
486 Air Expeditionary Wing (ACC)

Lineage. Established as 486 Bombardment Group (Heavy) on 14 Sep 1943. Activated on 20 Sep 1943. Redesignated 486 Bombardment Group, Heavy on 25 Jan 1944. Inactivated on 7 Nov 1945. Consolidated (10 Oct 1984) with the 586 Tactical Missile Group, which was established on 3 Aug 1956. Activated on 15 Sep 1956. Discontinued, and inactivated, on 25 Sep 1962. Consolidated establishment redesignated 486 Tactical Missile Wing on 10 Oct 1984. Activated on 27 Aug 1987. Inactivated on 30 Sep 1988. Redesignated 486 Air Expeditionary Wing, and converted to provisional status, on 30 Jan 2003.

Assignments. 16 Bombardment Operational Training Wing, 20 Sep 1943; 21 Bombardment Wing, 9 Mar 1944; 92 Combat Bombardment Wing, 4 Apr 1944 (attached to 4 Combat Bombardment Wing, 15 Nov 1944-c. Feb 1945); 4 Combat Bombardment Wing, Feb 1945; 14 Combat Bombardment (later, 14 Bombardment) Wing, 16 Jun 1945; Third Air Force, c. 3 Sep-7 Nov 1945. 701 Tactical Missile Wing, 15 Sep 1956; 38 Tactical Missile Wing, 18 Jun 1958-25 Sep 1962. Seventeenth Air Force, 27 Aug 1987-30 Sep 1988. Air Combat Command to activate or inactivate at any time after 30 Jan 2003.

Components. Squadrons. **69** Tactical Missile: 15 Sep 1956-18 Jun 1958. **405** Tactical Missile: 18 Jun 1958-25 Sep 1962; 27 Aug 1987-30 Sep 1988. **832** Bombardment: 20 Sep 1943-7 Nov 1945. **833** Bombardment: 20 Sep 1943-7 Nov 1945. **834** Bombardment: 20 Sep 1943-7 Nov 1945. **835** Bombardment: 20 Sep 1943-7 Nov 1945.

Stations. Davis-Monthan AAFld, AZ, 20 Sep 1943; McCook AAFld, NE, 26 Oct 1943; Davis-Monthan AAFld, AZ, 9 Nov 1943-Mar 1944; England (flight echelon), 19 Mar 1944; Sudbury, England, 5 Apr 1944-26 Aug 1945; Drew Field, FL, 3 Sep-7 Nov 1945. Hahn AB, Germany, 15 Sep 1956-25 Sep 1962. Woensdrecht AB, Netherlands, 27 Aug 1987-30 Sep 1988.

Commanders. None (not manned), 20-26 Sep 1943; Col Glendon P. Overing, 27 Sep 1943; Col William B. Kieffer, 14 Apr 1945; Lt Col James J. Grater, c. 2 Jul 1945-unkn. Lt Col Eugene G. Milling Jr., 15 Sep 1956; Lt Col Hans U. Smithline, 1 Dec 1957; Col Henry B. Hewett, 3 Mar 1958; Col Edmund B. Edwards, 1 Aug 1961; Col Herman O. Parsons, 16 Jul-25 Sep 1962. Col Fredric L. Miller, 28 Aug 1987; Col Calvin L. Chasteen (additional duty), 2 Jun-31 Aug 1988; apparently none (not manned), 1-30 Sep 1988.

Aircraft. B-24, 1943-1944; B-17, 1944-1945. Matador, 1956-1960; T-33, 1956-1958; Mace, 1960-1962. None, 1987-1988.

Operations. Trained in the U.S. until it moved to England in Mar 1944, assigned to Eighth Air Force. Entered combat in May 1944 with B-24 aircraft, but converted to B-17s in Jul. Operated chiefly against strategic objectives in Germany until May 1945. Targets included marshalling yards, airfields, oil refineries and storage plants, and factories. Other missions included bombing airfields, gun positions, V-weapon sites, and railroad bridges in France in preparation for or in support of the invasion of Normandy in Jun 1944; striking road junctions and troop concentrations in support of ground forces pushing across France, Jul-Aug 1944; hitting gun emplacements near Arnheim to minimize transport and glider losses during the airborne invasion of Holland in Sep 1944;

and bombing enemy installations in support of ground troops during the Battle of the Bulge (Dec 1944-Jan 1945) and the assault across the Rhine (Mar-Apr 1945). Flew the last combat mission on 21 Apr 1945. Returned to the U.S., Jul-Aug 1945, and inactivated on 7 Nov 1945. The Tactical Missile Group activated in Sep 1956 at Hahn AB, Germany, assuming most of the personnel of the 69th Tactical Missile Squadron. Equipped with TM-61 Matador missiles, the group trained and remained prepared for tactical missile operations. Beginning in early 1960, the group converted to TM-76 Mace missiles. The group inactivated at Hahn on 25 Sep 1962. The 486th Tactical Missile Wing was the final GLCM (Ground Launch Cruise Missile) wing to activate in Europe and the first to inactivate following the signing of the Intermediate Nuclear Force (INF) Treaty between the U.S. and the Soviet Union. Wing did not receive any missiles before beginning to phase down in Jan 1988.

Service Streamers. None.

Campaign Streamers. *World War II:* Air Offensive, Europe; Normandy; Northern France; Rhineland; Ardennes-Alsace; Central Europe.

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers. None.

Decorations. Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards: 15 Sep 1956-30 Apr 1958; 1 Apr 1959-30 Jan 1961.

Lineage, Assignments, Components, Stations, and Honors through 26 Mar 2003.

Commanders, Aircraft, and Operations through Sep 1988.

Supersedes statement prepared on 14 Sep 1987.

Emblem. Approved on 26 Mar 1957.

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